whether this site is the Bhima Sankar Dwadas Jyotirlinga. The site is not a protected monument under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) The State Government has not yet taken up the development of this site.

(c) Any development of archaeological site of religious and historical importance will lead to rise in number of tourists and revenue earnings.

(d) The State Government has informed the Ministry that the development of the roads can be taken up subject to the availability of funds.

Shiva Linga named Moison Ram in Meghalaya

†1672. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is huge "Shiva Linga" of God "Shanker" in the name of "Moison Ram" in a cave at a distance of 60 Km from shillong in Meghalaya and it is full of religious and natural beauty;

(b) whether this place could be developed on the lines of Amarnath;

(c) whether influx of pilgrims would increase and Government of Meghalaya would accrue more revenue if the said development takes place; and

(d) if so, by when the action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) According to the information received from the Government of Meghalaya, there is a natural formation of stalactite and stalagmite in the cave near Mawsynram. The place has great tourist potential. The State Government is taking steps to develop the site.

BPL Persons in the NER

†1673. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) the details of population living Below Poverty Line in the North Eastern region till March 2006, State-wise;

(b) the details of the amount allocated and spent for the development of North Eastern region during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the separate details of the annual amount out of the above allocated for economic development of the people of this region as well as for the construction of infrastructure there; and

(d) the details of the increase or decrease, registered in the number of person living Below Poverty Line during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at National and State level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years following the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor. The latest estimate of poverty is available for the year 1999-2000 based on the large sample survey of consumer expenditure data of 55th Round of NSS.

The numbers and percentage of persons living below the poverty line in the States of NER are given in the following table:

States	Arunachal Pradesh	Assam	Manipur	Meghalaya	Mizoram	Nagaland	Sikkim	Tripura
No. of persons (lakhs)	3.98	94.55	7.19	8.23	1.85	5.49	2.05	13.02
% of persons	33.47	36.09	28.54	33.87	19.47	32.67	36.55	34.44

(b) The details of the amount allocated and spent for the North Eastern Region (NER) by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) and other Central Ministries/Departments coming under the purveiw of ten per cent allocation for NER during 2002-03 to 2004-05 are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Ministry of DoNER		Non-exempt Central Ministries/Department	
	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
2002-03	1019.90	1011.35	5460.06	5139.59
2003-04	1069.90	1069.76	5105.75	5237.31
2004-05	1185.00	1178.34	6786.71	6403.74

(c) Such classification is not done due to the fact that infrastructure development leads to the economic development and both are inter-dependent for overall development of the region.

(d) The latest estimates of State-wise poverty are available for the year 1999-2000. The survey on household consumer expenditure, which forms the basis for the estimation of poverty, is conducted at an interval of approximately five years. As such the details of increase or decrease registered in the number of persons living below poverty line during the last three years are not available.

Proof of Pakistani assistance to terrorists

†1674. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the concrete proof of Pakistan's assistance to the terrorists, which were placed before the American representatives were not placed before the Pakistani representatives in the administrative level talks held recently with Pakistan to restore confidence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not placing the said proof before the Pakistani representatives?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) India-Pakistan Foreign Secretary talks were held on November 14-15, 2006. During the talks India gave information and material to Pakistan about cases where investigations had been completed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.